

# First Aid in the Home

In the emergency hospitals Pond's Extract is valued because of its power to stop bleeding; because of its efficacy in reducing inflammation; in relieving pain; in preventing blood poisoning. It's the remedy that

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### BISSELL SWEEPER

This is done by this ad or any other ad, appearing between now and Christmas, and will write us to this effect, giving the name of the store where you purchased, date of purchase, etc. We will immediately send you a Free Bissell quality Bissell Sweeper (with card case with no printing on it) something any lady or gentleman would appreciate. Write Dept. 25 for coupon the treatise "How to Care for Diseases," of great interest to everyone, especially tuberculosis.

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## THE FINEST PEARL NECKLACE IN THE WORLD

Over a Million Dollars was spent in collecting it, and about \$300,000 will buy it

THE finest pearl necklace ever strung—unless possibly Cleopatra, who was "very fond" of pearls, and had them for supper occasionally, had a finer one in her collection—is for sale at a store in Fifth Avenue, New York. For thirty years the little jewelry store—it is little, really—has been in New York, and for that length of time has always been dealing largely in precious stones, until it has become the practical headquarters for the rarest and finest gems; and people who want to see good stones and "know the ropes" do not bother the big jewelers, but drop into the little Fifth Avenue place, and in its rear offices look over precious stones and pearls at their ease.

To return to the necklace. It took three years to collect the forty-one stones that compose it, and more than one million dollars was spent in buying, comparing, selecting and preparing the two score and one that are now on the silken string. The history of the necklace gives an idea of how great collections of jewels are made.

The firm had two pearls, beautifully matched, which it thought might well form the nucleus of a necklace—no pun intended. With their future decided, it became necessary to get other pearls to go with them. While these others were collecting, a single pearl, larger than the originals, was seen, and bought for the central place of honor, and the two originals were relegated to the right and left centres. In time, the string was complete. But for a time, for one day a buyer obtained a pearl larger than either of the originals, larger than either, and nearly as large as the 46-grain monster in the center. Very promptly it was placed beside the big pearl, and at once proceeded to make the other original "look like runt's teeth." The firm decided that it was classified, and that the necklace was complete, and directed their buyers to get another pearl to match the newcomer.

This was more easily said than done. Try as they could, the firm's buyers could not find a match. At last, eight days after the new stone had been put in place, a man dropped into the store with a pearl for sale. It was the long-sought-for stone, and the man went away with a cheque for more than \$15,000 in his pocket, while the deft-fingered pearl-stringer slipped the new gem upon the string in place of the older stone. Twenty times or more has the necklace been "completed," each time to be re-made for the better. Now, however, it is

finished—unless some one turns up with a better stone than any now on it. If he should, the pearl stringer will have more work to do, for the firm will buy a better pearl than any now in the necklace—if it can get it—and put it on the string, too.

The necklace consists of a single string of stones, forty-one in number. As you look at it, and as you handle it in its chamois case you will begin to appreciate it. It is nearly eighteen inches long; each pearl is as round as a baseball, and the string is graded from the centre to the ends as if the pearls had been cut and rounded to suit. It is composed of East Indian pearls, of such perfection that a Bombay merchant said, when he saw it, that even Lady Sassoon, whose husband is one of the wealthiest men in India, and a famous collector of pearls, could not boast of a necklace approaching this one.

A little trifle like \$300,000 will buy the necklace as it stands to-day. That is more than many persons will care to give—let alone having; but when it is remembered that the firm refused about \$40,000 for the centre stone, and gave more than \$15,000 for the second finest stone in the string; that more than three years were spent in making the collection, and more than a million dollars spent in doing so; and that the average weight of the forty-one pearls is twenty-two grains, the price placed on the necklace does not seem so enormous—if you have the means and the desire to buy it.

Don't get the idea that because more than a million dollars was spent in making the necklace the firm is selling it at a loss at \$300,000. The pearls bought for the string but rejected were made up in other forms, and sold separately; so that though the million dollars were spent in making the present necklace, the difference between the amount spent and the price asked for the string as completed does not represent any loss to the firm. If you buy the necklace, you will pay a fair price for it, and will not be getting any sacrifice-sale bargain. But you will get a real bargain, probably; for pearls are becoming scarcer each year. It takes something like a century for an oyster to produce a 46-grain pearl, and the demand for large stones is increasing. It would seem to be a good investment, therefore, to buy this necklace and hold, as well as wear, it for a few years. The wearing will not hurt the stones, either; so that by buying this necklace one can both eat his cake and have it—a feat seldom accomplished.

## The Best School

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